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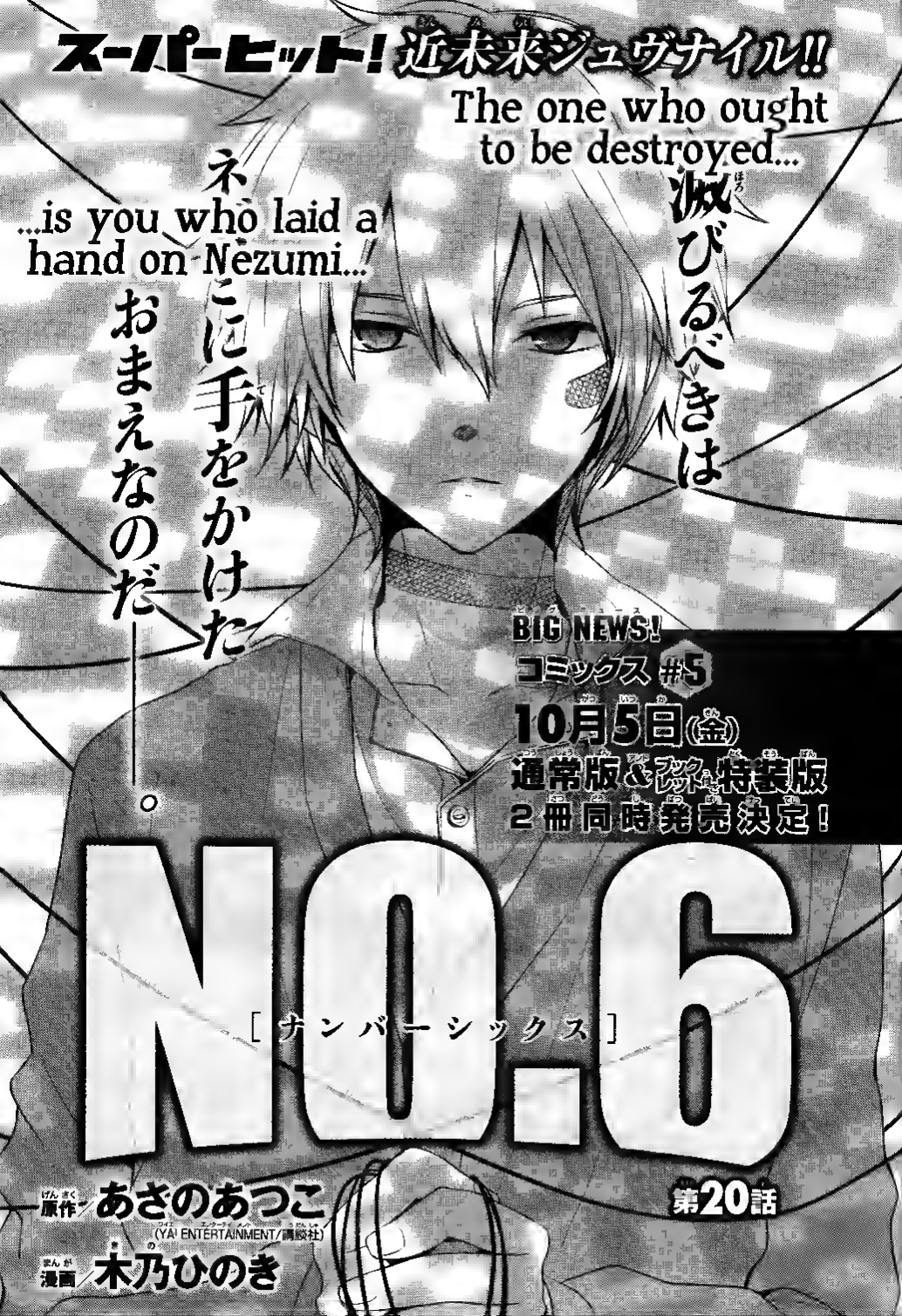
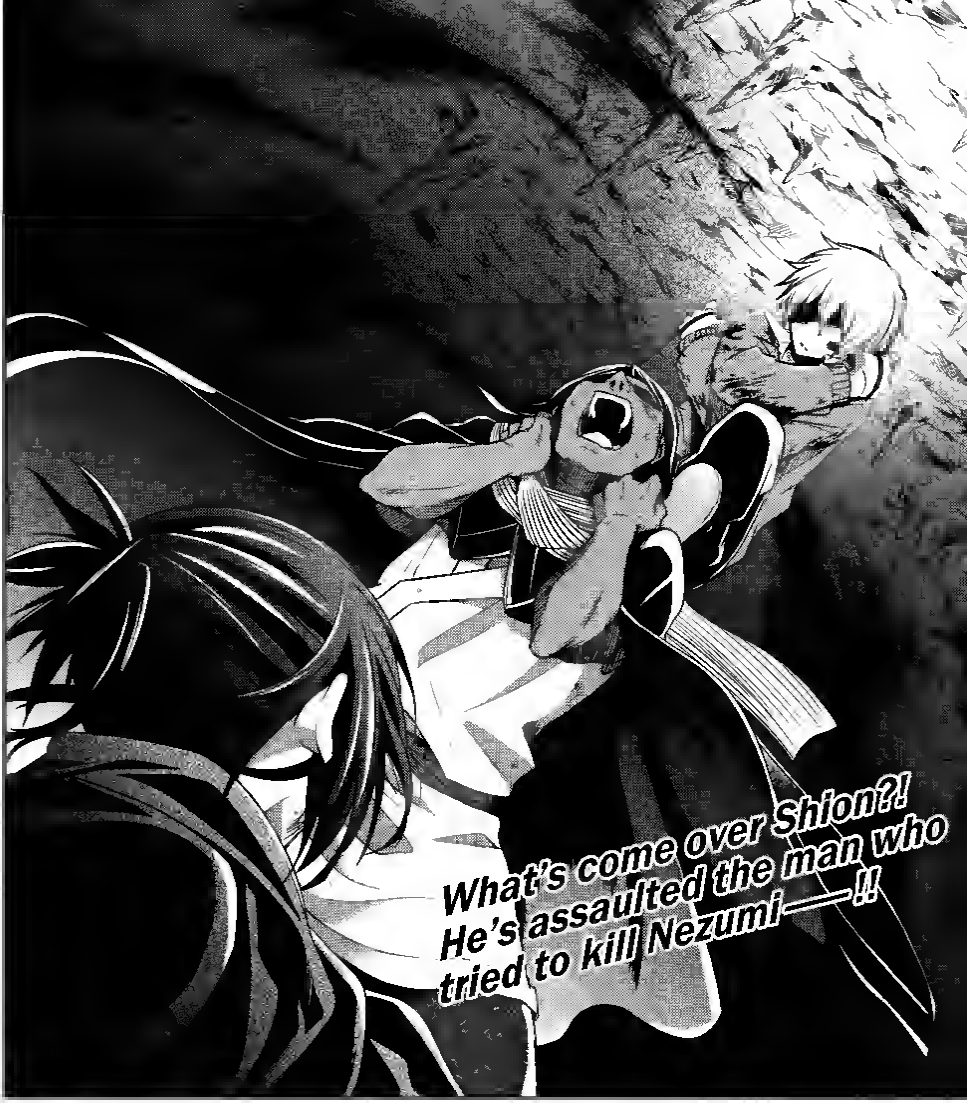

スーパーヒット！近未来ジュヴナイル!!
The one who ought to be destroyed...
滅びるべきは
...is you who laid a hand on Nezumi...
ネズミに手をかけたおまえなのだ――。
BIG NEWS!
コミックス#5
10月5日(金)
通常版&ブックレット特装版
2冊同時発売決定！
NO.6
[ナンバーシックス]
第20話
原作／あさのあつこ
(YA! ENTERTAINMENT/講談社)
漫画／木乃ひのき



CHARACTERS キャラクターズ

ネズミ
4年前、高級住宅地クロノスで紫苑に助けられた、NO.6を憎んでいる。

紫苑
NO.6の元エリート。優しい天然少年だが、過酷な毎日の中で変わり始める。

沙布
紫苑に恋心を抱く幼なじみ。

火鼠
紫苑の母。

イヌカシ
西ブロックで犬を貢したり情報を売ったりして生きている。

力河
怪しい仕事を営む元新聞記者。

STORY ストーリー

○紫苑は、都市NO.6の元エリート。殺人容疑で連行されかけたところをネズミに助けられ、暴力・混沌の町、西ブロックに逃げのびる。紫苑はネズミとともにここで生きる決意をし、イヌカシ、力河とも出会い、たくましく成長していく。
○幼なじみの沙布が矯正施設に拘束されたことを知った紫苑は、沙布を助けに行こうと決意。突然始まった"人狩り"に乗じ矯正施設への潜入に成功するしかしそこでは、想像を絶する地獄絵図が繰り広げられていた…絶望と恐怖を押し殺し進んでいくと、そこにはネズミを知る者が

SHION!
SFX: DASH
SFX: GRAB
SHION, STOP!
PLEASE, STOP IT!
I'M BEGGING YOU, SHION...!
EH...?

AH... YEAH...
CAN YOU HEAR MY VOICE?
LET GO— QUICKLY!
BASE YOUR GRIP NOW...
YOU'RE NOT CUT OUT TO BE AN EXECUTIONER.
OR ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME THIS IS SOME FORM OF SALVATION AS WELL...?
GRIP
SHION...
SFX: THUD
Cough
Wheeze

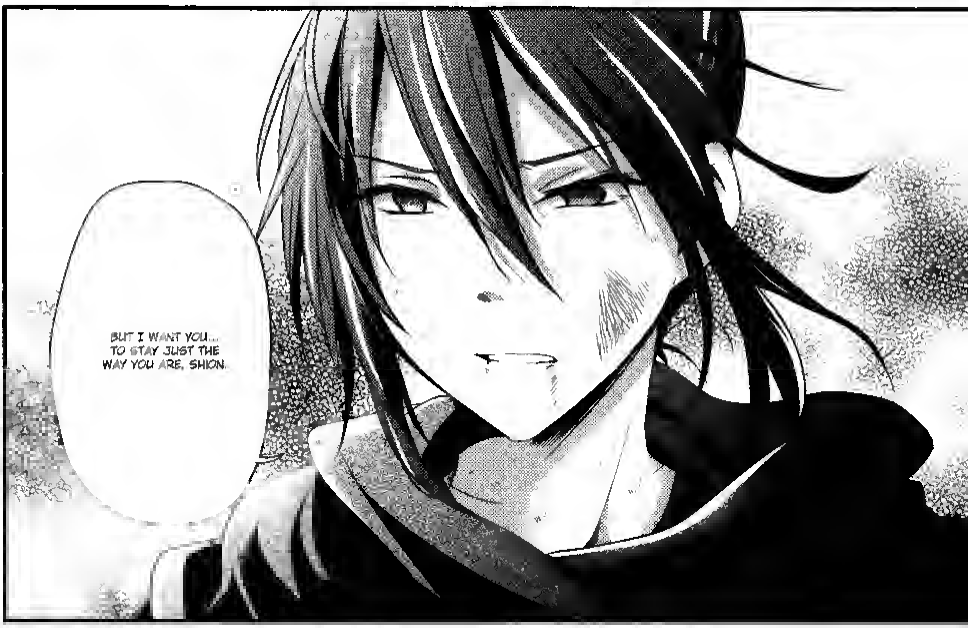
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
IT WAS HIS PUNISHMENT
OF COURSE NOT
AND I'D DO IT ALL AGAIN
SHION, YOU
SO HE WAS PUNISHED
THAT MAN TRIED TO KILL YOU

IF THAT MAN TRIES TO KILL YOU—
THEN I'LL DO THE SAME THING TIME AND TIME AGAIN
EVEN I DIDN'T NOTICE HIM
SO WHO—THE HELL IS HE THEN?
WHO THE HELL IS ME?

A RESIDENT OF NO.6
WHAT'S A RESIDENT OF NO.6 DOING HERE?
hmph
LET US SEE YOU!
WE'LL TELL HIM EVERYTHING

LET'S HEAR WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY.

I'M SURE THIS WON'T DO ANY GOOD TO SAY...
SHION, LET'S GO
OH, RIGHT!
.....


BUT I WANT YOU... TO STAY JUST THE WAY YOU ARE, SHION.

THE SHION I KNOW... WOULD NEVER CARRY OUT JUDGMENT ON SOMEONE--NEVER.
HUH? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

SO FIGHT IT, SHION.
FIGHT... AGAINST YOURSELF.
throb
throb
throb
throb
relax
.....

Shion, wait!
Don't go ..!
Shion....
Come home
me...!
Turn around!
SFX: IMPENDING DOOM
SHION!

WAKE
MA'AM!
KARAN!
YOUMIN...
FINALLY AWAKE?
phew!
LILI...
sit up
I MUST HAVE FAINTED
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT AREN'T YOU??
YOU'RE OKAY NOW, YEAH??
MA'AM...!!
tackle

Shion...

I feel like at this very moment, Shion is heading to "place" where I'll never see him again...
But what can I possibly do"?
What do I do"?!

touch
Ah! Mice!
SHOCK
SQUEAK!

A second letter...?
unfurl
SQUEAK!
place
SHOCK
This isn't Shion's writing ..
But.. this is ..
Shion is safe and sound. He's fled to the Black Feathers' Security Bureau's Reception through the main Bureau = safe with any damage = black — Nezumi
This is..!

SFX: OVERWHELMED
You'll definitely meet again. —Nezumi.
Ah...I can breathe again...
I mustn't lose faith yet...

NEZUMI!
YOU'LL DEFINITELY MEET AGAIN.
NO MATTER WHAT, I WILL RETURN SHION SAFELY TO YOUR SIDE.
THIS I SWEAR TO YOU.

And he'll always, no matter what, be by Shion's side...
Nezumi is there for him...
My boy isn't alone...
KARAN? WHAT IS THAT...?
A LETTER!
?
A LETTER? MICE DELIVER LETTERS TO YOUR PLACE?
toddle
INDEED THEY DO!
AND HAND-WRITTEN ONES AT THAT!
squeeze
A HECK OF A LOT BETTER THAN E-MAIL, RIGHT?

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
SFX SLAM
pant
huff
wheeze
YOU COULD AT LEAST KNOCK
WHAT IF I'D BEEN CHANGING CLOTHES?
CLATTER
—SO THE MANHUNT FINALLY CAME HUH—
How many times...in your life...
pant
huff
...have you ever had... to change clothes...?

AND EVERY-THING'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN, RIGHT?
THEY MANAGED TO INFILTRATE THE CORRECTIONAL FA-CILITY JUST LIKE THEY WANTED
ISN'T THAT A GOOD THING?
SLAM
AND THEY TOOK SHION AWAY!!
I'M SO WORRIED, I CAN'T STAND IT!
ALL YOUR WORRYING'S NOT DOING AN OUNCE OF GOOD YOU KNOW OLD MAN
IT'S ONLY GOOD IF THEY MANAGE TO MAKE IT OUT ALIVE!
POOR SHION...
WHEN I THINK ABOUT ALL THE HORRIBLE THINGS HE'S HAVING TO ENDURE...
OLD MAN,
SHION DIDN'T INFILTRATE THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY ALL BY HIMSELF, YANNO
Though I guess it's more accurate to say he was "captured"
HE'S GOT A PARTNER WITH HIM.
AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT HIM AS WELL?
WHAT EVE?
WHO GIVES A SHIT ABOUT THAT GUY.

WELL SHION'S GOT THAT FOX WITH HIM
I'M SURE HE'LL BE FINE
hmph!
BUT WEREN'T YOU HIS FAN?
I WAS FOOLED!
THAT VIXEN WITH THAT FACE AND THAT VOICE BUT THAT HORRIBLE PERSONALITY!
HE'S A GUY.
SFX: CLATTER
ARE YOU SURE?!
DO YOU REALLY THINK SHION WILL BE ALL RIGHT?!

HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'IF THAT'S THE CASE...'?
IF THAT'S THE CASE... THEN WE'LL HAVE TO PUT IN OUR OWN EFFORTS, HUH
JERK
HOW THE HELL WOULD I KNOW?!
IT MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO DO OUR PART FROM THE OUTSIDE TO HELP MAKE SURE SHION GETS OUT OF THERE ALIVE, OF COURSE!
HEY, OLD MAN-- I DON'T OWE THAT AIRHEAD ANYTHING!
I'M NOT HIS FRIEND OR HIS SIBLING OR HIS RELATIVE OR HIS PARENT EITHER!
AND WHO DECIDED THAT?!
I'LL PASS THANKS!
twitch
SO YOU WON'T HELP OUT SHION?

COMRADE?!
WELL HE'S OUR COMRADE ISN'T HE?
HE'S LIKE AN ANGEL!
THERE AREN'T MANY AROUND AS PURE AS HIM!
NO, I MEAN... WELL, I DON'T DISLIKE HIM...
YOU LIKE THAT KID TOO DON'T YOU INUKASHI?
WE'RE ALL COMRADES!
AREN'T WE?

HOW CAN WE NOT HELP HIM?!
SHION'S SURELY TRUSTING IN US AND WAITING FOR OUR AID!
ISN'T HE ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE, INUKASHI?!
HE INFILTRATED THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY TO SAVE HIS FRIEND
HE PUT HIS LIFE ON THE LINE TO SAVE ANOTHER!
WONDERFUL!
AS TO BE EXPECTED OF INUKASHI OF THE RUINS!
...I GUESS I DON'T MIND PITCHING IN A BIT BASED ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES
.....
...NOW HOW ABOUT YOU TELL ME YOUR REAL REASON FOR DOING THIS INSTEAD OF ALL THIS LIP SERVICE?

CLATTER
SO HOW MUCH DO YOU STAND TO MAKE ON THIS?
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING FOR IN THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY?
WHATEVER IT IS YOU'RE AIMING FOR
MY REAL REASON...?
CLATTER
I'M ONLY THINKING ABOUT HOW TO HELP SHION.
LOOKING FOR...? WHAT'RE YOU
CLATTER
NEZUMI THREATENED THE ROTH OF US TO GET OUR AID IN HELPING HIM INFILTRATE THE FACILITY...
AND THAT'S WHERE OUR PART WOULD END. USUALLY
WE'D SNATCH UP THE MONEY WE'D EARNED AND SCURRY BACK TO OUR HOLES...
...AND NOT GIVE A SHIT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THAT...RIGHT?

YET THIS TIME YOU'RE POKING YOUR NOSE OUT OF YOUR SAFE LITTLE BURROW AND TRYING TO HEAD RIGHT INTO THE DANGER ZONE...
AND YOU SAY IT'S FOR SHION?
BULLSHIT.
I DON'T BUY THAT FOR ONE MINUTE

I JUST DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH TIME LEFT
AWW, MY DEEPEST SYMPATHIES
I DON'T MEAN FOR ME.
I'M TALKING ABOUT NO.6

SIGH
FINE.

STRANGE HAPPENINGS ARE POPPING UP ALL OVER THE PLACE
FIRST, THERE WERE A FEW CASES OF A STRANGE SICKNESS REPORTED INSIDE THE CITY...
AND REMEMBER WHAT THAT FURA FELLOW SAID?
THE NEW EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IN THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY IS CONNECTED TO THE HEALTH BUREAU

IT SOUNDS LIKE THAT FRIEND OF SHION'S WAS PRETTY MUCH JUST KIDNAPPED AND TAKEN TO THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY...
AND WHILE I HAVEN'T CONFIRMED THIS JUST YET, IT SEEMS SOME OF THE WORKERS INVOLVED IN CONSTRUCTING THE NEW ADDITION TO THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY DIED SUDDENLY
...MURDERED!?
NOT SURE.
REGARDLESS, THE STENCH OF DEATH IS ALL AROUND...

SFX. RUMBLING, CRACKING

THIS MEANS THEY'VE BEEN DEVELOPING WEAPONS IN SECRET, SOMETHING EXPLICITLY PROHIBITED BY THE BABYLON TREATY
AND NOW THEY'VE BEGUN USING IT IN PUBLIC
THIS MANHUNT WAS PROBABLY A CHANCE FOR THEM TO TEST THEIR NEW WEAPONS—
AND THEN THERE WAS THAT SONIC BOOM WEAPON!
THEY REALLY DID A NUMBER!
REDUCED THE BAZAAR TO RUBBLE IN ONE SHOT!

A STRANGE DISEASE...
NEW EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IN THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INFORMATION TRICKLING OUT FROM THE CITY
AND DISCONTENT, DISSATISFACTION, AND WORRYING BUILDING UP WITH IN THAT CITY...
SO IN OTHER WORDS IT'S LIKE GAS IS BUILDING UP INSIDE THE CITY WALLS...?
EXACTLY.
IT'S STILL FAINT AT THE MOMENT... BUT AS SOON AS IT GETS JUST A BIT MORE CONCENTRATED...
YOU MEAN---NO.6 WILL DESTROY ITSELF FROM THE INSIDE OUT...?
IF ALL GOES WELL
AND THE IGNITION POINT IS PROBABLY THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY...

...IS WHAT NEZUMI TOLD YOU, HUH?
ALL OF THESE MYSTERIES ARE FOCUSED WITHIN THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY!
Well I wouldn't expect a booze hound to come to that conclusion either.
YEAH, SO WHAT ABOUT THAT ALL-IMPORTANT DISCUSSION OF PROFITS?
SHUT YOUR TRAP!
AS IF THAT BRAT COULD COME TO SUCH A HIGH-LEVEL CONCLUSION!
THERE'S A SECRET VAULT HIDDEN BENEATH THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY, IT SEEMS...!
HOW ABOUT THAT?
MAKES YOU DIZZY JUST THINKING ABOUT IT, HUH?
I HAVEN'T DETERMINED ITS EXACT LOCATION YET
A SECRET VAULT...?
BUT IT SUPPOSEDLY HOLDS SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF TONS OF GOLD BULLION THAT THE TOP NO 6 OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SECRETLY STOCKPILING

CONNECTIONS?
YEAH YEAH... I KNOW
I JUST WANT TO USE YOUR CONNECTIONS...
THERE ARE GUYS INSIDE THE FACILITY WHO SEND FOOD SCRAPS YOUR WAY, AREN'T THERE?
SHOCK
SO WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
I'M OUT IF IT'S ANYTHING DANGEROUS
...I'm impressed, Nezumi.
You managed to make good use of this stupid old fool.

CLATTER
LISTEN UP INUKASHI
MAKE SURE THAT CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND THOSE MEN IS SOLID.
IF POSSIBLE TRY AND WIN OVER EVEN MORE
ALL RIGHT
WAAAAAH!!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
grrr...
NGYA!
NGYA
WAAAH!!
THAT VOICE... IT WAS A BABY CRYING. RIGHT?!

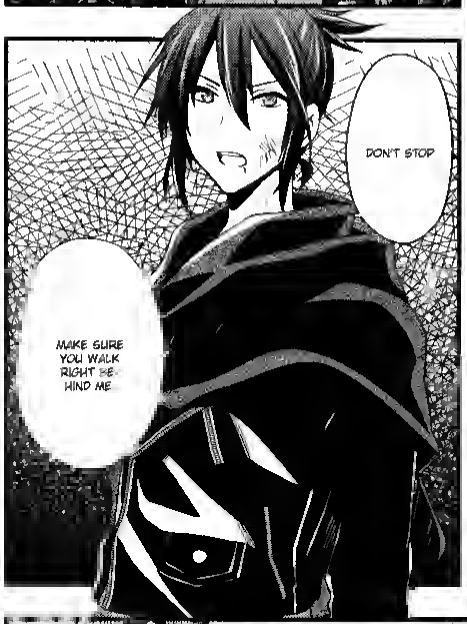
WAA-AAA-AAH!!
IS IT A NEW BREED, THEN?
DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE A TAIL.
JUST ONE OF MY DOGS
INUKASHI... WHAT THE HECK IS THIS...?!
BY YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE ANGEL
I DIDN'T PICK IT UP! I HAD IT PUSHED ON ME
SHION?!
WHY'D YOU PICK UP SOMETHING LIKE THAT?! YOU GONNA SELL IT?!
lift
pat pat
stiff
ANGELS DON'T DROP FAIRIES ON OTHERS
Geez...tricking and lying
AND WHEN HIS OWN LIFE WAS IN DANGER. A TRUE ANGEL THROUGH AND THROUGH...!

SHION.
OH C'MON DON'T COMPLAIN LIKE THAT!
HE LOOKS ADORABLE!
SO WHAT'S HIS NAME?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT.. THEY ARE THE SAME COLOR. HOW PRETTY!
RIGHT? THE CHILD OF AN ANGEL--NOW TAKE HIM HOME
HUH?
HE'S THE ONE WHO SADDLED ME WITH HIM.
THEY SHOULD SHARE A NAME
HEY OLD MAN DON'T YOU THINK HIS EYES LOOK LIKE SHION S?
...Oh, no.
I'm a bachelor.
step

step
step
step
WELL I'M SINGLE, TOO!
WELL HERE, YOU DON'T NEED ANY BABY CLOTHES-- JUST LET THE DOGS LICK HIM! AND THEY CAN KEEP HIM WARM!
A perfect environment for raising a child!
OOH YEAH! I'LL TRACK DOWN SOME POWDERED MILK AND GET IT TO YOU!
OPEN
SEE YA, INUKASHI! I'LL DROP BY AGAIN REAL SOON!!
.....
tug
tug
WHAT. HAPPY TO HAVE A NAME?
MAKE SURE YOU GROW UP BIG AND STRONG UNTIL YOUR PAPA CAN COME BACK FOR YOU, SHION—
poke
OI, SHION THAT HURTS DAMMIT! DON'T GET FULL OF YOURSELF

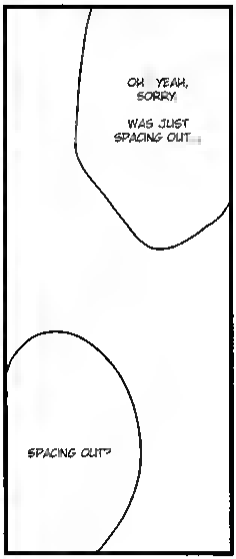
SFX: WHOOSHING
RATTLE
THEN COME BACK FOR THIS KID
AND YOU LIVE TOO, SHION.

SHION


DON'T STOP
MAKE SURE YOU WALK RIGHT BEHIND ME.

I can hear the wind...

I THOUGHT I HEARD THE SOUND OF WIND...
THE WIND THAT BLOWS AROUND INUKASHI'S INN.
I know I'm just hearing things, though.
...HEY NEZUMI?
WHAT DO YOU THINK INUKASHI'S DOING RIGHT NOW...?


OH... YEAH, SORRY.
WAS JUST SPACING OUT...
SPACING OUT?

shift
YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING, YOU KNOW?
THERE AREN'T MANY WHO COULD SPACE OUT UNDER THESE CONDITIONS
DON'T LEAVE MY SIDE. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
nod
I TOLD YOU BEFORE BUT I WON'T TELL YOU AGAIN
huff
huff
step
step
plop

step...
A massive cave has just appeared!
But are the shadowy figures hiding in the crevices friend...or foe?
Next time: a color cover page!
People?!
To be continued...